

Message Text

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NEA/RA:RSEARING

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R 052313Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SCUL

REF: STATE 173843

SUBJECT: SURVEY TRIP BY HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS REPRESENTA-
TIVES

1. SUMMARY: GLOBETROTTERS GRATEFUL FOR POSTS' PROMPT RE-
SPONSES TO REFTEL. ALTHOUGH TWO POSTS INDICATED SUFFICIENT
INTEREST/SUPPORT TO GENERATE POSSIBLE TEAM TOUR THIS SUMMER,
TEAM HAS DECIDED (WITH DEPARTMENT'S URGING) TO USE SUMMER
1975 TO MAKE ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS IN AREA FOR TEAM TRIPS
DURING FOLLOWING YEARS, IF APPROPRIATE. THREE PLAYER-
REPRESENTATIVES OF TEAM ARE WILLING TO TRAVEL TO ADDRESSEE
POSTS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR GLOBETROTTER
APPEARANCES BEGINNING 1976.

2. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND GLOBETROTTER MEMBERS
MEADOWLARK LEMON AND MARCUS HAYNES BASED ON POST RESPONSES
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TO REFTEL NOW CENTER ON TEAM REPRESENTATIVES VISITING NE

CITIES DURING LAST HALF OF AUGUST 1975, WHERE TEAM MIGHT MAKE APPEARANCES BEGINNING IN 1976. TEAM NOW HOPES THAT APPEARANCES JUNE 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30 TIME FRAME OVER 1976-1980 PERIOD WILL BE APPROPRIATE. WOULD APPRECIATE POST ADVICE.

3. COMMERCIAL VIABILITY OF PROPOSED TEAM ENGAGEMENTS WILL DEPEND ON ABILITY OF TEAM TO ACHIEVE GUARANTEE BY HOST INSTITUTION OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS 13,500 PER GAME PLAYED.

THIS AMOUNT WOULD ENTIRELY COVER TEAM'S TRANSPORTATION COSTS, ROOM, AND BOARD, AS WELL AS SALARIES AND OTHER OVER-HEAD ITEMS. IN SUCH CASE, IF TICKETS WERE SOLD, HOST INSTITUTION WOULD KEEP GATE RECEIPTS. IF HOST INSTITUTION WILLING TO PROVIDE TEAM WITH ROOM, BOARD, AND/OR TRANSPORTATION, TEAM WILLING TO NEGOTIATE LOWER FIGURE. IN ADDITION, TEAM WANTS TO KEEP RESPONSIBILITY AND PROCEEDS FOR SALE OF ARABIC LANGUAGE VERSION TEAM PROGRAMS AND PENNANTS, T-SHIRTS, AND SMALL BASKETBALL SOUVENIRS. THEY WILL RUN BRIEF PLAYING/COACHING CLINICS WHILE IN EACH COUNTRY.

4. LEMON, HAYNES, AND JOSEPH CUNNINGHAM ARE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE TRIP TO AREA TO DISCUSS TERMS AND ARRANGEMENTS. THEIR TENTATIVE SCHEDULE, PENDING POST ADVICE OF AVAILABILITY OF RELEVANT APPOINTMENTS WITH HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS AND FEASIBILITY OF HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, WILL BE:

ARRIVE ALGIERS NIGHT OF 8/13, DEPART EVENING OF 8/14 FOR TUNIS;
DEPART TUNIS AFTERNOON/EVENING 8/15 FOR TRIPOLI;
DEPART TRIPOLI AFTERNOON 8/17 FOR TEHRAN;
DEPART TEHRAN AFTERNOON 8/18 FOR DOHA;
DEPART DOHA EVENING 8/19 FOR ABU DHABI;
DEPART ABU DHABI EVENING 8/20 FOR KUWAIT;
DEPART KUWAIT AFTERNOON/EVENING 8/21 FOR CAIRO;
DEPART CAIRO AFTERNOON/EVENING 8/23 FOR ROME.

5. WHILE DEPARTMENT NOT REPEAT NOT SPONSORING EITHER THIS ADVANCE VISIT OR SUBSEQUENT TEAM TOURS IN AREA, WE BELIEVE THAT GLOBETROTTER APPEARANCES WILL MATERIALLY ENHANCE UNCLASSIFIED

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AMERICAN PRESENCE. TEAM REPRESENTATIVES PREPARED TO DO THEIR OWN NEGOTIATING WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS, BUT DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE POST ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP FIRM APPOINTMENTS WHERE POSSIBLE. ALSO, WHILE TEAM REPRESENTATIVES, LIKE ANY PRIVATE CITIZENS, ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THEIR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS, THEY HAVE NOT BEGUN TO DO SO AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE POST MIGHT OFFER

6. FOR JIDDA: TEAM WILL CONTACT WHITTAKER CORP., AS YOU
ADVISED. KISSINGER

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